

# 'Lest We Forget'

WASHINGTON -- Now that World War II is a generation in the past, will the Holocaust be forgotten?

For Jews, "the price of existence is constant remembrance", warns Rabbi Leivy Smolar, president of the Baltimore Hebrew College, in "Lest We Forget... The Murder of the Six Million Jews of Europe", published by the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization for its Judaism Pamphlet Series.

Rabbi Smolar rejects the idea that the mass extermination was an isolated incident.

"The Holocaust did not arise out of the blue, the insane idea of a madman...". Its roots "run deep in the soil of human history," he writes.

"For the Holocaust to have been possible, hatred of the Jews had to be incubating and festering and growing for hundreds of years," Rabbi Smolar declares. The hatred did not disappear with the end of the war and "can always be fanned into a flame," he adds.

Rabbi Smolar accuses the great powers of having done little to aid European Jewry. "The great nations watched almost as spectators," he declares.

Rabbi Smolar points to the murder of the Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics as evidence that the Holocaust story needs to be constantly retold.

In the 64-page pamphlet, he traces the development of the Holocaust from the ancient to the modern world. He describes, in chapters on resistance and the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, the determination of the Jews to strike back.

"Perhaps the most crucial lesson of all deals not with man's indifference and cruelty, but with his determination and strength and his will to live," he says. Even in the death camps, he writes, Jews fought to retain their human dignity and maintain their customs.

"Lest We Forget..." is the latest of 15 booklets written by scholars and teachers on a variety of Jewish themes. Designed for teenagers, the series includes bibliographies, questions and suggestions for group projects.

A list of the series and instructions for ordering copies are available from: B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, 1640 Rhode Island Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. 20036.

LOS ANGELES -- "The existence of the State of Israel has not caused anti-Semitism to disappear but it has, since its creation, given hope to world Jewry," was spoken by Israeli Premier Golda Meir and her country's Foreign Minister, Abba Eban, in separate half-hour filmed interviews conducted in Israel by Arnold Forster, general counsel of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The films, prepared in color for American television in ADL's "Dateline Israel" series, are part of the celebration of Israel's 25th Anniversary.



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